U.S. Embassy Brazzaville, Republic of the Congo

Emergency Message for US Citizens - Rioting in Makelekele and Bacongo

April 13, 2012

Please be advised that earlier today there were reports of a small group of Congolese citizens rioting and causing damage to private homes in the Brazzaville neighborhoods of Bacongo and Makelekele. Brazzaville-based U.S. citizens are advised to remain alert throughout the city.

We remind American citizens to be aware of their security situation at all times. U.S. citizens should closely monitor local media for reports of protests and rioting. We remind U.S. citizens that even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and become violent, and should be avoided.

You can stay in touch and get Embassy updates by checking the <u>U.S. Embassy Brazzaville</u> website. You can also get global updates at the U.S. Department of State's, <u>Bureau of Consular Affairs website</u> where you can find the current <u>Worldwide Caution</u>, Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and <u>Country Specific Information</u>. If you do not have Internet access, we have a call center for updates--1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada, or from other countries on a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except federal holidays).

The U.S. Embassy in Brazzaville encourages U.S. citizens to enroll in the <u>Smart Traveler Enrollment Program</u> for the most up-to-date security information. Keep all of your information in STEP up to date by maintaining your current phone numbers and email addresses where you can be reached in case of an emergency. U.S. citizens may also download our free Smart Traveler IPhone App to have travel information at their fingertips.

The U.S. Embassy is located on Boulevard Denis Sassou Nguesso across from the Blanche Gomez Maternity Hospital. The Consular Section is open Monday-Thursday, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, and on Fridays from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM. The Consular section can be reached via e-mail at BrazzavilleACS@state.gov, and our daytime telephone number is (+242) 06 612-2046.

For after-hours emergencies, call (+242) 05 526-0673.